

DD/R-114-62

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

23 April 1962

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SUBJECT: Classification Review of Project [REDACTED]

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1. On 20 April [REDACTED] DDR&E requested my review of the proposed classification of Project [REDACTED]. There has been considerable pressure on the Department of Defense to declassify a large part of the information obtained from this Project, but DIA has urged that the present or a higher classification be maintained. The DDR&E position papers were made available but it was not feasible to see the DIA paper.

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2. The review by OSI brought out the following points which were passed by telephone to [REDACTED] office:

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a. The release of the data from Project [REDACTED] would permit the Soviets to significantly improve their capability of locating targets in the United States (reduce uncertainty from 1,000 to about 500 feet).

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b. This improvement could be important toward the Soviet capability of neutralizing U. S. hard sites, although the precise improvement could only be determined by careful wargaming exercises.

c. Intelligence has no evidence of previous Soviet satellite experiments which would give comparable information and no evidence that such experiments were planned in the immediate future.

d. The release of information would in no way compromise or affect intelligence sources or information.

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e. No recommendation pro or con the release was appropriate since the risks cited above would have to be balanced against the scientific gains and this was beyond the responsibility of CIA.

HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.
Deputy Director
(Research)

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cc:

DDR&E 25X1A9a

cc: DAD/SI

w/background papers from DDR&E

DD/R:HS:djm

DD/R Subject

✓1-DD/R Chrono

SECRET

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM			
UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL	
		SECRET	
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	DAD/SL		
2	Mr. [REDACTED] 25X1A9a		
3			
4			
5			
6			
ACTION		DIRECT REPLY	
APPROVAL		DISPATCH	
COMMENT		RETURN	
CONCURRENCE		SIGNATURE	
Remarks: 25X1A9a			
Mr. [REDACTED]			
<p>I talked to Brown on this today and he stated that reduction in location error was more like 500 to 250 feet. 1000 feet too large.</p> <p>Herbert Scoville, Jr. DD/R</p>			
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
DD/R x7713			23 Apr.
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